TA Update, 8/9/2021

**Grant work:**

During the past few weeks I have been working with MassDEP and the FRCOG to update and finalize the scope of work on the South River Resiliency MVP grant project. Many thanks to Kimberly Noake MacPhee, Joe Strzegowski, Janet Chayes, Michele Turre, Ross Perry and Tom Hutcheson for all their hard work on this important grant, which has now been awarded for a total of $177,100 in FY22 and $14,100 in FY23. I am also meeting with Joe Strzegowski and Janet Chayes to discuss next steps on each of the three parcels the Town wishes to purchase. The updated start date for beginning work on purchasing these properties was extended to October 1, 2021, with an end date of June 30, 2022.

I met with Nicolas Miller, the Fluvial Geomorphologist from Field Geology Services

who has been working on South River issues through the FRCOG for years, to get background information on past and current projects in Conway.

I also met with David Whittier of the Field Memorial Library to discuss collaborating on an application to have the ‘Museum on Main Street’ exhibition of the Smithsonian displayed at the library. The applications through MassHumanities should be coming out in August or September.

**Personnel:**

Ron Sweet has posted the positions for the Mechanic/Operator position and Highway Clerk, and should be posting for the Building and Grounds Maintenance Technician shortly.

Lee Whitcomb has also posted for the Assessor’s Clerk position as Laura Hutt has resigned effective September 2nd, 2021, and Board of Health Clerk Ginny Knowlton has turned in her resignation letter, effective September 11th, 2021.

**Power Outages complaints:**

Several abutters of the Nexamp solar array have reported brief power outages. I am currently seeking information from both Eversource and Nexamp, and expect each company to provide information about whether or not those power outages are related to the Nexamp project or if there is some other cause. A Nexamp representative has assured me that they will not be turning the site on again until they understand what is happening, and they may have a statement to share as early as tomorrow.

**Miscellaneous:**

Since our last meeting, I have attended the annual Senior luncheon at the Sportsman’s Club, attended a Planning Board as well as an Assessors Board meeting, and had a wonderful time at the Irish Road Bowling contest, as well as the Grand Reopening of the Conway Mall. Many thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who give their time to create these community events!